

State of California
Business, Transportation and Housing Agency
Department of Transportation

Prepared by:
Karla Sutliff
Acting Chief
Division of Design
(916) 654-3858

HIGHWAY ROUTE MATTERS
Highway Route Adoption-Traversable Highway
Resolution: HRA 02-01
11-SD-905 KP T10.3/16.9E (PM T6.4/10.5E)

CTC Meeting: October 3-4, 2001

Agenda Item: 2.3a.(1)

Original Signed By _____
MARK LEJA
Acting Chief Financial Officer
October 1, 2001

ADOPTION OF A TRAVERSABLE HIGHWAY

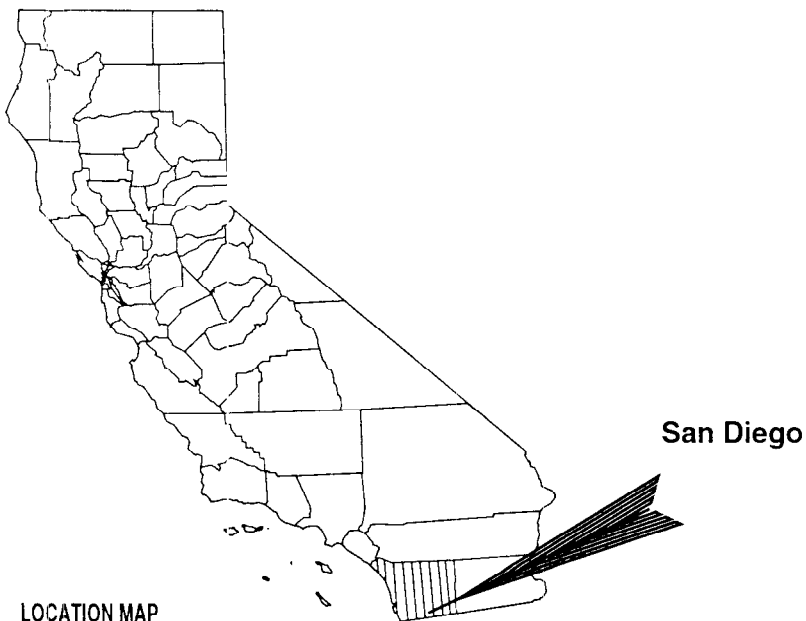
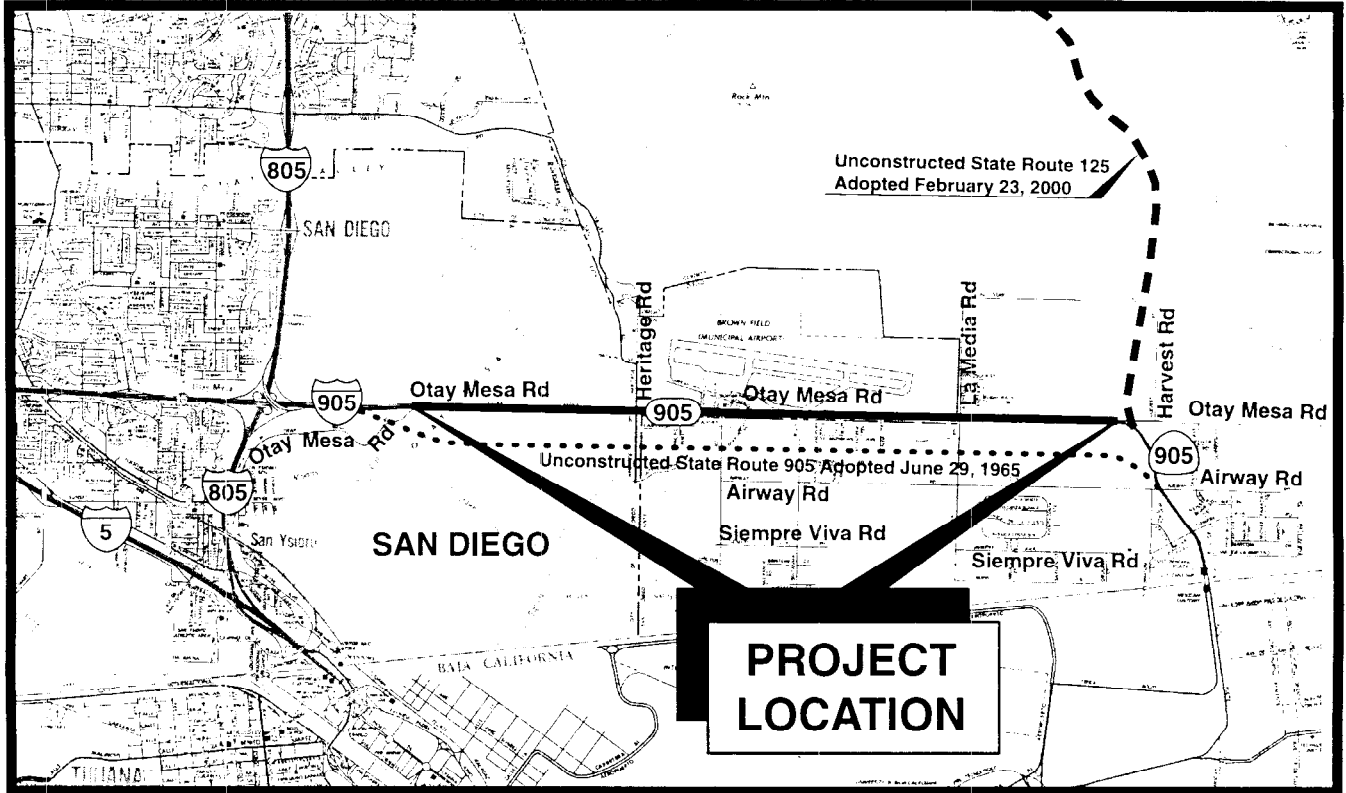
RECOMMENDATION

Submitted to the California Transportation Commission (CTC) are Resolution HRA 02-01 and maps showing the route location and the Route Adoption for a portion of Route 905. The City of San Diego has requested the State to adopt into the State Highway System the "traversable highway" named Otay Mesa Road. The Department of Transportation (Department) recommends that the Commission approve the resolution in accordance with the recommendation of the Chief Engineer. The route adoption is a 6.6 kilometers (4.1 miles) long location for Route 905 in the City of San Diego, San Diego County. The adoption action authorizes the transfer of ownership and maintenance responsibility from the local agency to the State. The Department will assume maintenance of Otay Mesa Road at the location shown on the Route Adoption Map.

The transfer of right of way will be a Categorical Exemption under CEQA.

Recommended by:

BRENT FELKER
Chief Engineer



11-SD-905

I hereby certify that this map was prepared
pursuant to and under my direction and is a
true and correct map of a portion of proposed
State Highway.

Civil Engineer License No. _____

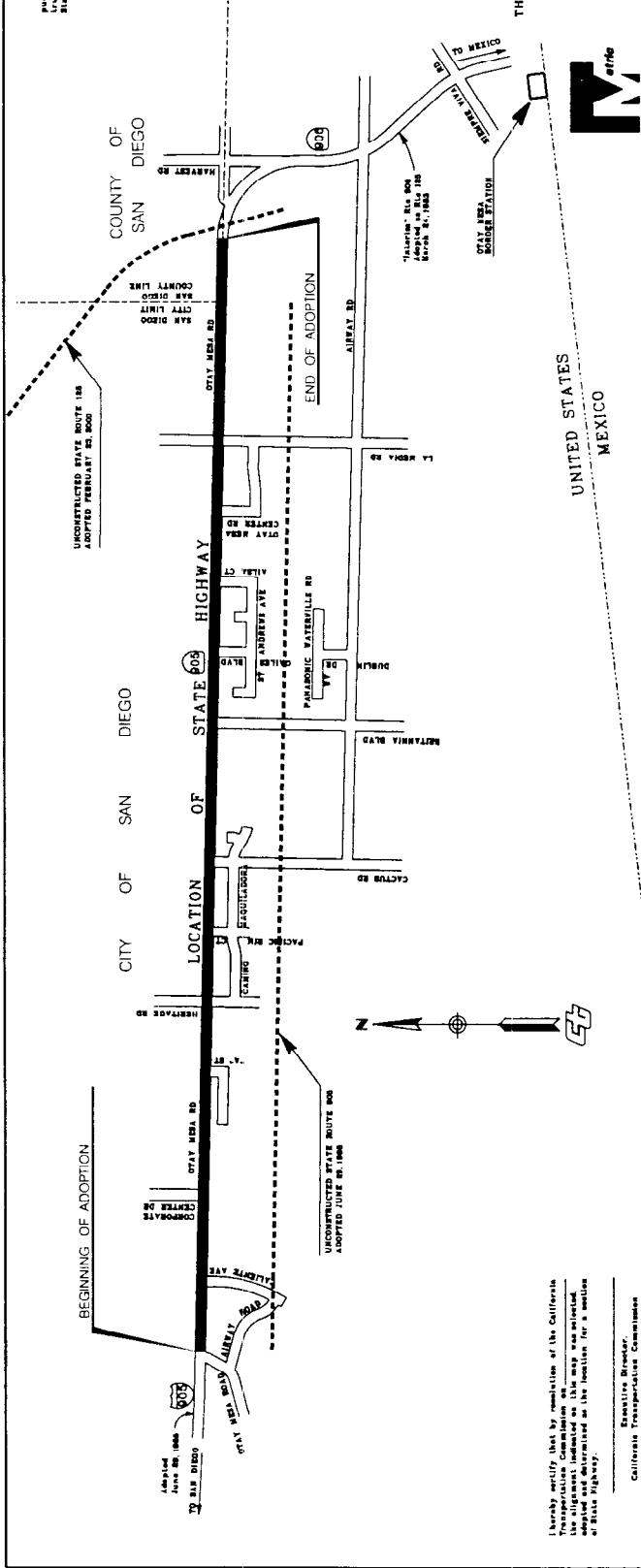
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MAP SHOWING

LOCATION OF
STATE HIGHWAY

IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY
FROM 2.1 KM (1.3 MILES)
EAST OF ROUTE 805 TO
2.1 KM (1.3 MILES) WEST OF
THE OTAY MESA POST OF ENTRY

11-SD-905



I hereby certify that by examination of the California
Transportation Commission on
the alignment indicated on this map was selected
and approved for the location for a section
of State Highway.

Executive Director,
California Transportation Commission

IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY KP T103/16.92 (PM T6.4/10.52)

Background

Route 905 is described in the Streets and Highways Code as extending from the International Boundary near Border Field Park, 4.5 kilometers (2.8 miles) west of Interstate Route 5, to the Otay Mesa Port of Entry, a distance of 19.3 kilometers (12 miles). Route 905 is in the Freeway and Expressway System.

Increased truck traffic was anticipated in the border area of San Diego County following the signing of the 1994 North American Free Trade Act (NAFTA). With the closure of the San Ysidro commercial truck Port of Entry (POE) all trucks bound for Mexico will use the Otay Mesa POE Station. This area is served by I-5, I-805 and I-905.

However, portions of I-905 have not been constructed. The location of Route 905 from the International Boundary near Border Field Park, KP 0.0 (PM 0.0) to the west side of I-5 KP 4.5 (PM 2.8), is not yet adopted and no studies are in progress. The freeway location of Route 905 from I-5 to conventional Route 905 was adopted by the commission on June 29, 1965. This alignment for the route adoption is located immediately south of Otay Mesa Road. Only the portion of Route 905 from the west side of I-5, KP 4.5 (PM 2.8) to 1.3 kilometer (0.8 mile) east of I-805 was constructed as a four-lane interstate freeway. The remaining portion has not yet been constructed. On March 24, 1983, a conventional highway from Otay Mesa Road to the second international border entry southerly of Brown Field was adopted as Route 125. The facility was transferred to the Department in 1990 and acts as an interim segment for Route 905. This facility will be addressed as Route 905 in the remainder of this report.

In 1994 funds to complete the I-905 freeway facility were not available. However, the Secretary of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency signed a Resolution of Intent dated December 19, 1994. The resolution states that the State of California and the City of San Diego recognize that cross border truck traffic would be using Otay Mesa Road and that Otay Mesa did not have the capacity nor was it designed to carry heavy truck traffic. The intent of the resolution was that the City of San Diego and the State of California enter into a cooperative agreement to upgrade and widen the four and one-half mile section of Otay Mesa Road and that the State would maintain the improved roadway until the I-905 freeway was built.

The route adoption of Otay Mesa Road will close the gap between the end of Interstate 905 and the existing conventional highway portion of Route 905. The traversable highway will provide a continuous state highway to serve NAFTA traffic through the port of entry until the freeway project is opened to traffic.

Proposal

Otay Mesa Road and conventional highway portion of Route 905 currently handle the traffic generated between the Routes I-805/I-905 interchange and the Otay Mesa Port of Entry. Otay Mesa Road is a six-lane divided arterial with at-grade signalized intersections, left-turn pockets, and with posted speed limits ranging from 50 to 65 MPH. The facility transitions from six to four-lanes prior to the junction with Route 905.

Due to increased truck traffic to and from Mexico, the City of San Diego has requested that the Department take over the maintenance and operation of Otay Mesa Road. On May 22, 2000, the City of San Diego completed the construction project to widen and rehabilitate Otay Mesa Road. On September 20, 2000, a field review was held by representatives from the District and from Headquarters Traffic Operations, Maintenance, Project Development and the Office of Highway System Engineering, Transportation System Information Division. The review concluded that the facility was constructed to state highway standards. However, some minor corrective work was discovered. All corrective work was completed as of September, 2001, and Otay Mesa Road is suitable to be adopted as a State Highway.

There will be no change in traffic patterns due to the Departments assumption of maintenance. The current two-way average annual daily traffic (AADT) is about 46,000 vehicles at the beginning of the traversable highway. At this point, the 2010 year traffic is estimated at 62,000 vehicles. The current two-way AADT at Siempre Viva Road is 28,500 vehicles. At this point, the 2010 year traffic is estimated at 38,500 vehicles. The annual maintenance cost is estimated to be \$88,000 per year for the proposed 6.6 kilometer (4.1 mile) segment of Route 905.

The Route 905 freeway (Route I-905 "Extension" project) is estimated to be open to traffic in the year 2009. When the Route 905 freeway is opened to traffic, Otay Mesa Road will be relinquished to the City of San Diego pursuant to a Cooperative Agreement dated December 10, 1996.

Coordination

The Cooperative Agreement dated December 10, 1996, contains the terms and conditions of the adoption of Otay Mesa Road into the State Highway System and the future relinquishment to the City upon completion of the Route I-905 freeway project.

The Route Adoption Report was approved on September 12, 2001. The adoption action authorizes the transfer of ownership and maintenance responsibility from the local agency to the State. All required improvements to Otay Mesa Road were completed with the City of San Diego's project. No further improvements are needed in order to adopt this route as a state highway and no change in traffic usage is expected as a result of the adoption action, so no hearing or environmental studies are needed.

The Department is currently conducting environmental and location studies for a proposed Route 905 freeway which will replace the proposed traversable highway on Otay Mesa Road between Interstate 805 and Airway Road in the City of San Diego. A public hearing was held on the freeway project studies on September 20, 2001. The draft environmental document for the freeway project is addressed in Item 2.2.b (1) on this agenda. The Route 905 freeway is estimated to be open to traffic in the year 2009. When the Route 905 freeway is opened to traffic, Otay Mesa Road will be relinquished to the City of San Diego pursuant to the terms in the Cooperative Agreement dated December 10, 1996.

Conclusion

The proposed traversable highway route adoption will provide continuity to State Route 905 and will provide a connection between Route I-905 and Route 905 until such time the freeway project is opened to traffic in about the year 2009. The Department has determined that Otay Mesa Road meets State Highway standards and is in an acceptable state of repair that is suitable for the assumption of maintenance.

For the forgoing reasons, the proposed adoption of Otay Mesa Road as the location for Route 905 is considered to be in the best public interest.

Attachment

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
Resolution Adopting a Traversable Highway
11-SD-905 KP T10.3/16.9E (PM T6.4/T10.5E)
Resolution HRA 02-01

WHEREAS the California State Legislature has described Route 905 in the Streets and Highways Code to be located from the International Border near Border Field northeasterly to Route 5 and from Route 5 to the International Boundary southerly of Brown Field; and

WHEREAS on December 19, 1994, a Resolution of Intent was signed by the Secretary of the Business, Housing and Transportation which identified the need for the City of San Diego and the State to work cooperatively to upgrade and widen Otay Mesa Road and that the State would maintain the new roadway until the I-905 freeway was constructed; and

WHEREAS on December 10, 1996, the Department of Transportation (Department) and the City of San Diego entered into a Cooperative Agreement involving funding and construction of a project to upgrade and widen Otay Mesa Road to state highway standards; and

WHEREAS on May 22, 2000, the City completed the construction project to widen and rehabilitate Otay Mesa Road to state highway standards; and

WHEREAS on September 20, 2000, a field review was conducted by the Department and subsequent corrective work was completed in September, 2001, and

WHEREAS the City of San Diego now requests that the California Transportation Commission adopt Otay Mesa Road into the State highway System pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Cooperative Agreements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the California Transportation Commission that pursuant to the authority vested in it by law, this Commission does hereby adopt Otay Mesa Road into the State Highway System as a traversable highway for a portion of the location of State Highway Route 905 in the City of San Diego, San Diego County, Kilometer Post T10.3 to Kilometer Post 16.9E (PM T6.4/10.5E), and officially designated 11-SD-905 as said location is shown on the map submitted on October 1, 2001, by Karla Sutliff, Acting Chief Design Engineer; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Commission has found and determined and hereby declares that such adoption of the location of said State highway is for the best interest of the State.